

## Class of 1972 Updates Archives 11\_09

**11/29/09 2010 New Year's Resolutions:** A few of years back I decided that I wanted to make a point of seeing more of my old friends and classmates while they were still breathing. To that end, I have gone out of my way (and that's what you'll have to do) to find people, call people, email people, and pigeon hole them if I see them out and about. As a result, I've gotten to see a couple of folks for the last time while they could still talk with me and we could enjoy one another's company. On average we are 55 years old as a cohort. If you are a statistician, you know that the curve for increased mortality starts to kick in around here. That means the rate of there being fewer of us will increase over the next 15-45 years until it only includes the centenarians among us.

I'm not sure why we 'hide out' more the older we get, but if you make no effort to look up old friends or even be with them when an opportunity presents itself (e.g., informal gatherings, reunions, etc.), the loss is everybody's and not just yours. Consider resolving as you go into 2010 to make a point to look up old friends, gather with classmates, mend any broken old fences, and heal any old rifts. We'll be having our monthly lunches again starting on **January 29, 2010** and we have a class get together at Marlene 'Leary' Baughman's house on **June 12, 2010**. Why not start making plans now to attend one or more of these events in 2010. Not everybody has time to get to everything we do, but if you come by once in a while, it's a great way to stay in touch. Keep checking our calendar for monthly dates.

**11/22/09 Entering The Holiday Season:** This is the time of year that many folks start to wind down their work year and travel more to be with their family and friends. I used to be able to drive 20 hours at a stretch and be good to go again the next day. I notice that doesn't work so well for me any more; maybe it's just me. In any event, be careful as you travel during Thanksgiving week and in the four or five weeks ahead, whether you drive or fly. There are fewer living members of the **Arvin High School Class of 1972** all the time and we don't want anything happening to you, especially at this time of year. If you are coming to Bakersfield to visit family from out of the area, let us know so we can post it here and on Facebook so old friends who are still looking for you for that lunch money you borrowed in 69' can get in touch with you while you're in town. [farrellneeley@aol.com](mailto:farrellneeley@aol.com) **Have a safe and Happy Thanksgiving...**

**11/15/09 Keep Those Immunizations Current:** We are all at the age where Gerontologists regard our class cohort as 'young-old'. At 55 or thereabouts, we're not over the hill, but we can see the crest from here. Let me encourage you to check out a website devoted to getting information out to people like you and me about keeping their immunizations current so they can avoid being one of the 50,000 adults each year who die needlessly because they get a disease for which there was an existing vaccine. Now if you're like me, you hated those health clinics/shots as a child but learned to grin and bear it. We now have to be concerned about Shingles, Hepatitis A, Hepatitis B, Tetanus, Pneumonia, and Human Papilloma Virus just to name a few. The site is [www.adultvaccination.org](http://www.adultvaccination.org) and we'll have a permanent link now on our 'Links' page so you can find it easily. I encourage you to check it out. It's a non-profit effort and while drug companies are among the sponsors of the nonprofit, they aren't there pushing their wares. Here are two additional resources to look over to help you learn more and make informed decisions about whether or not you need or want vaccinations. [Center for Disease Control Immunization Schedule](#) and [Immunization Fact Sheet](#) check them out now. If you need to download Adobe Reader, the download link is at the top of this page.

**11/08/09 Back Home Again:** I've heard from Jeff Campbell, James Williams, and Lynda 'Denny' Del Rio this past week that they have all finally returned to either their homes or their workplaces out of California after visits here for either family time and/or the **Arvin High School 60th Anniversary Celebration** and AHAA Golf Tournament. Jeff is back home and at work in Arizona; James is back at work in Colorado; and Lynda is back home and work in Idaho after a trip to California to be with her children and grandchildren. If I missed any of you, drop me an email about any updates in your life and we'll get it posted. [farrellneeley@aol.com](mailto:farrellneeley@aol.com)

**11/01/09 Become A Facebook Fan of The Arvin High School Class of 1972:** For the past five months we have been building our class page on **Facebook** and want you to drop by whenever you are there. It's '**Arvin High Class of 1972**' and we want you to become a fan so you can receive updates as soon as they post here on our website. Be sure to let other classmates and other AHS alums know about it because it's such a good way to stay connected.

If you haven't already joined Facebook, you should at least consider it. It's fun, it's free, and it's a great way to keep up with old classmates, their kids, and grandkids. Currently there are about 1,500 active Arvin High School alumni on Facebook and about 15 of those are from our class. We have been adding about one every two weeks and we need to pick up that pace. If you find you don't like it, you can always disconnect... [www.facebook.com](http://www.facebook.com)

**11/01/09 Wickenburg, Arizona, March 2010:** Jeff Campbell asked me if we would try to stir up some interest in AHS alumni from the Class of 1972 and thereabouts coming over to Wickenburg, Arizona towards the end of next winter for some golf and some visitin'. I'm always up for golf and visitin', but I don't know

how many of the rest of you would be. Drop me a line at [farrellneeley@aol.com](mailto:farrellneeley@aol.com) or Jeff a line at [catchall28@yahoo.com](mailto:catchall28@yahoo.com) so we can get a feel for the level of interest. You don't have to be a great golfer, you do need to be good company since most of us are not great golfers but we like to visit.

The hotel and green's fees are reasonable at that time and if we get our names in the hat early, we might be able to get some additional discounts. We are also checking on accommodations for recreational vehicles, hostels, and tents for the hardy. We are trying to make this accessible if you really want to get out of town and see some old friends while playing a little golf in the Arizona winter sunshine...

I used to spend a lot of time at conventions and on business in Phoenix, Arizona (50 miles from Wickenburg) in the winter and the weather is great there at that season. It's also easy to access by either automobile or air, since Phoenix is a hub and there are flights from everywhere (including Bakersfield) every day. If you are living in the mid-west or northeast and it's snowy and icy when you come West in the winter, it makes you not want to never go back home again...